

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments, in view of the reasons that follow. Claims 1-19 were subject to a restriction/election requirement. Claim 1 has been amended and Claims 16-19 have been cancelled. New claims 20-24 have been added. No new subject matter has been added. Claims 1-15, and 20-24 will therefore be pending in this Application upon entry of this Reply and Amendment.

Election/Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has required restriction between Claims 1-15 (Group 1), drawn to a rechargeable battery and Claims 16-19 (Group 2), drawn to a method for producing a rechargeable battery.

Applicants hereby elect Group 1, Claims 1-15, for examination. Claims 16-19 have been cancelled without prejudice and new Claims 20-24 have been added to present claims of varying scope and are part of the elected group as being directed to a "rechargeable battery."

* * *

Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by the credit card payment instructions in EFS-Web being incorrect or absent, resulting in a rejected or incorrect credit card transaction, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of

papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 20, 2008

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